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For further information contact:

Violette Roberts, Community Relations Manager

Mojave Desert AQMD (760) 245-1661 ext. 6104

GO FLY A KITE AT THE CLEAN AIR FAIR

Public Also Invited to Test Drive an EV, Visit Tech-X During Annual Event

Victorville -- Mark your calendar for Saturday, May 4 - that's the date of the sixth Clean Air Fair, the Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District's (MDAQMD's) annual environmental extravaganza. This year, the Fair is moving to Victor Valley College's (VVC's) lower campus, where it will take place from 10:00AM to 3:00PM in the gym, on Fish Hatchery Road.

A highlight of this year's event will be the American Lung Association's "Flight for Life," which will take place from 11:00AM to 2:00 PM at VVC's soccer field during the Fair. "Flight for Life" is an educational project which provides youngsters with free "Earth Kites" to fly during the event, and encourages them to make a commitment to preventing air pollution. Students from Apple Valley Middle School and St. Timothy's School in Apple Valley have signed on to participate in the event as a classroom project.

The Clean Air Fair will also feature a large display of alternative fuel vehicles, including Damien Chrysler's Global Electric Motorcar (GEM), the first neighborhood EV to be sold in the U.S. by a major automaker. The GEM - which has a top speed of 25 mph and starts at just \$7,000 - will be available for test drives. Other Fair highlights will include Edison's popular Energy Star mobile exhibit; nonstop entertainment by Environmental Magician Paul Cash, Hesperia High School's Band and the High Desert Unicycle Club; and more than 40 environmentally-themed booths from local businesses and organizations. As always, the Clean Air Fair and all its activities are free.

This year's Fair is being held in conjunction with VVC's 2002 Tech-X, which will feature an electric vehicle race and "hands-on" competitions, such as a "Flung Dung" contest. A free shuttle train will be available to transport visitors between the many activities taking place along Fish Hatchery Road throughout the day.

The Clean Air Fair is presented by the MDAQMD each May in observance of National Clean Air Month. Local teachers are encouraged to utilize the event as an environmental education tool for their students. According to Chuck Fryxell, the MDAQMD's Air Pollution Control Officer, "The Clean Air Fair is designed to inspire High Desert residents - particularly young people - to do their part to protect the environment, while enjoying the Fair's fun and festive atmosphere."

For more information, contact the MDAQMD's Community Relations & Education Office at (760) 245-1661, ext. 6717.